REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

By the present amendment, applicants have canceled Claims 11, 13, and 16-17. In addition, applicants have amended Claim 8 to correct the dependency. No new matter has been added. Therefore the claims remaining for consideration by the Examiner are Claims 1-10, 12, 14-15, and 18-23.

Additionally, applicants have amended the specification to insert a claim of priority and place the Abstract on a separate sheet. Should the Examiner have any questions, please contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: January 7, 2005

John D. Thallemer Attorney for Applicants

Reg. No. 34,940